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has interested himself in the matter, and it is proposed to ask the Catholics of the East to contribute toward a fund to be used in paying this mountain of debt. It is contemplated that the offerings shall be entirely voluntary, and it is not to be made compulsory on the priesthood to solicit from their congregations if not so inclined. The sum necessary to be raised is so enormous as to render it extremely doubtful whether the Archbishop's debts can ever be paid in this way.

The character of the Brazilian postal service was probably unknown to the patriotic Senators who gave their votes in aid of Mr. Roach's magnificent subsidy scheme. Advice from the Capital of the great South American Empire, however, throw much light on this point, if, indeed, light can penetrate such a barbaric system as the Brazilian mode of managing the mails. We are told that all foreign mail bags on their arrival in Rio are emptied of their contents in some public place, and foreigners, who are supposed to select whatever letters they choose without reference to right or propriety interest. The system in vogue somewhat resembles the grab-bag principle, the grabber, however, having the liberty to repeat as often as he pleases without hindrance from the postal authorities. This practice tallies so well with the Brazilian mind in general, and the Roach specimens in particular, that one is led to believe that the great shipbuilder got his original idea from the Brazilian Capital.

It will be a comforting feature of the coming contest in the extra session over the repeal of the Election Supervisors' law that if the Legislative, Judicial, and Executive bill again falls of passage on that account, a large part of the inconvenience and annoyance will fall upon the Democrats themselves. Failure of the bill would leave Congress in the hands of the majority to draw its salaries, and leave the army of Democratic employees attached to the Senate and House in a condition of extreme destitution. The country will rather enjoy the spectacle of lofty self-denial consequent upon the determination of the Democrats to borrow, and beg, and steal rather than consent that any protection shall be afforded against frauds on the ballot-box. It must come to this if they insist upon allowing the Legislative bill to fail again, for nothing is more certain than that the President will veto the bill if it comes to him with the repeal clause attached, and it will be impossible to command the two-thirds majority necessary to pass the bill over the veto.

THE OLD STATE-SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE RE-REVIVED.

It is now certain that the Democrats propose to force the fighting "on the old issue of State Sovereignty." They demand for the repeal of the National Election law, and their refusal to vote money for carrying on the Federal Government unless that demand be conceded, furnish the opportunity for reviving this issue. It is to be taken up just where BROTHMAN left it when he went out of office. It is to be urged in local as well as State and national elections. It is to cut some figure even in our city election next month. The return of CARTER HARRISON, whom the anti-national Democrats expect to run for Mayor, and the speeches made at his candidature, revealed the intention to make this the central issue of the campaign. This statement will be found to be fully borne out by the following extracts from the well-known address made by CHARLES CAMERON in Mr. HARRISON'S response. Mr. CAMERON laid down HARRISON'S platform in the following terms:

"We welcome you because you have labored in the forty-fourth and forty-fifth Congresses to bring the Government back to its original platform, to bring it back within its own natural limits; because you have labored efficiently and faithfully to cut down the national expenses; because you have labored in your party and out of it to bring the corruptors of the administration of public affairs to justice. We welcome you because of the stand which you and your brother-Democrats have taken in the present Administration, to bring it down to first principles. You have said by your action that no more legislation shall be enacted by Congress simply for the purpose of perpetuating a single party in power. You have said, 'Not a dollar shall be contributed toward defraying the expenses of the Government; those infamous laws, made to perpetuate a party in power, shall be wiped from the national statute-books. You have said to the Administration: 'We will pass no appropriation bill until the national statute-books show that the Government is to be conducted by the people under the laws of the States; that Congressmen are sent to Congress not as United States officers, but as State officers to represent the people of the States; that the people of this country are free enough and able enough to conduct their own elections without the interference of Federal Supervisors.'"

"We said, 'The people have the power and the right to elect their own representatives, and to elect and elect as it will.' We said, 'We will give the Government the money it needs to carry out its functions, but we will not give a cent to overawe honest voters at the polls.' We said, and cried of 'Good!' 'Good!' 'Good!' We did not attempt to use force. We simply said what we believed we had a right to do. Some of us may have differed as to the course to be pursued, but we were all united in the purpose to bring the Government back to its original platform, to bring it back within its own natural limits; because you have labored efficiently and faithfully to cut down the national expenses; because you have labored in your party and out of it to bring the corruptors of the administration of public affairs to justice. We welcome you because of the stand which you and your brother-Democrats have taken in the present Administration, to bring it down to first principles. You have said by your action that no more legislation shall be enacted by Congress simply for the purpose of perpetuating a single party in power. You have said, 'Not a dollar shall be contributed toward defraying the expenses of the Government; those infamous laws, made to perpetuate a party in power, shall be wiped from the national statute-books. You have said to the Administration: 'We will pass no appropriation bill until the national statute-books show that the Government is to be conducted by the people under the laws of the States; that Congressmen are sent to Congress not as United States officers, but as State officers to represent the people of the States; that the people of this country are free enough and able enough to conduct their own elections without the interference of Federal Supervisors.'"

So far as Mr. HARRISON'S and his possible candidature for the Mayor's office are concerned, it may be said that the eulogy passed upon his Congressional career was rather faint. We are not informed of any special acts devised or encouraged by CARTER to bring the Government back to its original purity; the efficiency of his labors in cutting down the expenses may well be doubted in view of the fact that the appropriations made by this Congress largely exceed the revenue for the next fiscal year; nor do we know of any conspicuous part taken by this gentleman "to bring the corruptors of the administration of public affairs to justice." Putting these undesired compliments aside as meaningless, we find CAMERON right in crediting Mr. HARRISON with his share in the Democratic conspiracy to withhold supplies from the General Government because the Republicans would not recognize the supremacy of State Governments by consenting to the repeal of the

only law which gives the National Government the slightest supervision over elections for the National Parliament. CAMERON'S eulogy in this respect and Mr. HARRISON'S acquiescence were received with loud applause by the Democratic crowd.

It is useless for the Democrats to seek an excuse for withholding appropriations and necessitating an extra session in the alleged refusal of the Republicans to agree to a repeal of the jurors' test-oath, and to the proposed prohibition of placing troops near the polls on election-day. The truth is, that the Republicans offered to agree to both these propositions if the Democrats would pass the Appropriation bills and permit the National Election law to stand. The Democrats refused any such compromise. Indeed, the jurors' test-oath, out of which the Democrats are trying to make capital, was actually repealed by a Republican Congress four years ago, and found its way into the Revised Statutes through the carelessness and incapacity of those charged with the work of revision. This being the case, the Republican Senate passed a bill before the holidays repealing that oath, and the bill laid for seventy-four days upon the table of the Democratic House, where the Democratic majority failed to take it up and pass it. All this shows that the Democrats are using the test-oath merely as a dishonest pretext. There has been no serious Republican opposition to its repeal; but, on the contrary, the Republicans have done more than the Democrats to secure its repeal, which only failed through the fault of the latter.

The real struggle is over the proposed repeal of the National Election law, and this involves (1) the issue of State vs. National Sovereignty, and (2) the issue of honest vs. dishonest elections. The United States law providing for the appointment of Supervisors in Congressional elections has the warrant of the Constitution, which, indeed, authorizes the General Government to assume the entire control over all national elections. This is the practice in all other Constitutional Governments and should be the practice in the United States. At this point, the Democrats rise up with the specter of State Sovereignty. Claiming that the General Government is merely the agent and agent of the States, without any inherent sovereignty, they assert that members of Congress are State officers, and that every State must be given the exclusive privilege of choosing its members in its own way, whether by free naturalization, by bulldozing, by tissue-paper ballots, or by fraud, violence, and corruption of any kind. It is claimed that the nation at large and the interests of a whole people must be made subservient to Democratic bruisers in the large cities and the ex-Confederate bulldozers of the South. It is denied that the nation as a whole has any right to produce itself, its Parliament, and its laws from the dangers and evils which State-House cliques in certain sections may bring upon it. Ballot-box stuffing, whether in New York or South Carolina, must be given full swing, and the entire people of the country must submit to the swindle, if it is approved or tolerated by the authorities of the States in which it is perpetrated. This is the doctrine which Mr. CAMERON stated, the doctrine which CARTER HARRISON admitted, the doctrine which his Democratic crowd applauded, and the doctrine which the people of Chicago are now asked to endorse this spring by electing Mr. HARRISON or some other State-Rights Democrat as Mayor.

There is nothing praiseworthy or unfair about the National Election law. The practice is to appoint Supervisors from both parties, and such persons as the two parties may respectively select. In New York the law is invoked by the Republicans, in Philadelphia by the Democrats. Its workings were illustrated in Chicago at the last election, when Supervisors were nominated by both parties, and no authority whatever in State, county, municipal, town, or other local elections. Their function extends only to the protection of Congressional elections from fraud, and possibly from combinations which the control of a State or City Government by one party or the other might make against a fair election. This amounts to an assertion of sovereignty in the General Government which the Democrats deny, and they now expect the courts to supply to carry on the General Government unless the right to supervise national elections be turned over entirely to the States.

There is no doubt that the Democrats will maintain the same position in the extra session which they took in the late Congress. If they find it impossible to carry their State-Sovereignty scheme over the President's veto, they will cut off supplies and stop the wheels of Government. They demand that the American people shall acquiesce in the right of secession, which is the very essence and logical result of State Sovereignty. And this is to be the policy of the Democrats, for the urging of which in 1860 State, county, and city elections are to be organized and managed. CARTER HARRISON has started the ball in Chicago.

TRAY TO TEMPERANCE PETITION.

The delegation of women headed by Miss FRANCES E. WILLARD have succeeded in introducing into the Legislature and having it referred to a committee a petition purporting to be signed by 110,000 females of the State asking that they be allowed the right to vote upon the question of granting licenses to sell liquor in the different municipal parts of the State. With the highest respect for the women engaged in this attack in force upon the Legislature, and with genuine sympathy for the cause of temperance which they profess to have at heart, we are nevertheless constrained to the belief not only that they are going to work in an imprudent and illogical manner, but that for obvious reasons their petition cannot be granted.

The petition asks that the Legislature shall confer upon them the right of suffrage for the specific purpose of closing saloons by a refusal to grant them licenses. Of course, if the General Assembly had any right under the State Constitution to make the concession for this purpose, it would have the same right for any other political purpose, or for any political purpose, and thus it could clothe woman with the elective franchise as completely as it is the male elector. Unfortunately, however, for the petition, the Legislature has no such power, nor can it confer the right of suffrage for any purpose except by an amendment to the Constitution, and such amendment has no vitality until it shall have been submitted to a vote of the people and be ratified by a majority of the electors. The Constitution is peremptory in this matter. The very first section of the article on Suffrage has the female sex to the ballot as effective-

ally as did the angel with the flaming sword in the Garden of Eden: "Every person . . . who shall be a male citizen of the United States above the age of 21 years shall be entitled to vote." If there is any way of climbing over this obstacle, the *modus operandi* does not occur to us. It appears to be a *visu quo* that admits of no compromise or technical evasion. The most astute constitutional expounder or cunning legal quibbler must give up the transmutation of a hopeless task.

It is an unfortunate defect that the petition does not call for any constitutional amendment. It proceeds upon the assumption that drinking will be stopped if the women can vote not to license places for the sale of liquor within the limits of certain precincts, wards, townships, villages, or cities. Allowing for the sake of the argument, however, that the Legislature had the right to invest these 110,000 women and all the other half-million of women of the State who did not sign it with a vote upon the license question, even then, *cut how* if a majority of the male voters in any ward, township, or city are in favor of non-licensing, then the female vote would be superfluous, because it is unnecessary in such case, and accomplishes nothing except to swell the majority with non-combatants. If, on the other hand, the majority of men are in favor of license, and the women alone, or with the help of a minority of males, outvote the male majority, they cannot enforce the prohibition to drink. We should have the curious spectacle of the men of a township or village arrayed upon the one side against the women upon the other. Probably in a thousand townships of this State the women pretty generally would vote against license and the majority of the men for it. In these townships, therefore, we should behold the somewhat absurd spectacle of the non-combatants commanding the militia of the municipality, the Constables, police, Sheriffs, Magistrates, —the physical force that enforces laws,—to enforce a local regulation they are opposed to and have voted against; to pursue a certain policy in a summary matter which they feel is not one's business, whether they feel it is right or not. We are afraid that the ladies would find to their disappointment that to vote non-licensing is one thing; to enforce it, another.

The petition of the women seems to be based upon the assumption that if only the majority inhabitants vote "No license," then no liquor will be drunk within the limits of the township. This is a very dangerous assumption, however, has been shown by experience a thousand times over to be a delusion. We need not go further than the State of Ohio to show how groundless is this conclusion that men can be prevented from drinking liquor by refusing to grant saloons licenses to sell it. A provision was incorporated in the Constitution of Ohio in 1850 that no licenses for the sale of liquors should be granted (not in certain wards or townships, but in any part of the State). Everything that the women concerned in this petition seek to enforce in spots in Illinois is provided for in every portion of Ohio. Although the people of Ohio are just as sober, temperate, and law-abiding as the people of Illinois; although they have a constitutional prohibition, supported by stringent penal statutes and all the machinery of the courts at command, to prevent drinking by non-licensing, and punishment for selling liquor for fabulous purposes; and although the local authorities have sought to enforce these prohibitions for more than a quarter of a century, there is fully as much liquor drunk in Ohio as in Illinois, if not more. It is simply tantamount to making whiskey free, the State getting all the evils and no revenue. It is altogether probable that no-licensing Chicago, though a smaller city than Chicago, consumes more wine, beer, and whiskey than Chicago does. No compulsory legislation has had any visible effect in diminishing drinking in that State. Intemperance has only given way before the great waves of moral suasion that now and then sweep over it. Political coercion does not reduce consumption. It only provokes strife and excitement. Probably in one-half of the townships of Illinois there is a sufficient prohibitory sentiment to secure a vote against licensing. Suppose that these townships could be enforced in these townships and wards, and that every saloon was closed, the results would be very different. The thirty saloons in Chicago, and the souls who drink occasionally, indignant at what they deemed to be an interference with their personal rights, would cross over into the next township or ward, where there was license, and get their bit of liquor; and not only this, but would take over their jugs and bottles and get them filled, while the private gatherings, and young men's clubs, and corner groceries, and drug-stores of the non-licensing district would find a dozen different ingenious methods for procuring the ar

Should hide--
Well! Well!
'Twas pride
Or passion,
For now,
Indeed,
I vow
You lead
The Fashion!

